

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1 - 2 (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~35, wherein said fingers form a substantially rectangular connector slot capable of engaging a substantially rectangular connector.

4. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~ 37, wherein each of at least two opposing fingers comprise ~~[[a]]~~ an engaging lug in ~~[[the]]~~ said ~~[[connector]]~~cable slot.

5. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~ 4, wherein each of at least two opposing fingers comprise a non-slip grip in ~~[[the]]~~ said ~~[[connector]]~~cable slot.

6- 7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~35, wherein each finger comprises ~~[[a]]~~ an engagement lug at its end and ~~[[the]]~~ said fingers form a connector slot that engages the connector by hooking the engagement lug around a distal corner of the connector.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~35 that is made from plastic.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~35, wherein the fingers flex outward when projected from the sleeve~~[[s]]~~, and are moved inward by ~~[[the]]~~ said sleeve as they are drawn into ~~[[the]]~~ said sleeve.

13. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~35, wherein said ~~[[the]]~~ fingers flex outward when said connector is engaged in said fingers.~~[[the connector slot]]~~.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[24]]~~ 37, further comprising a finger rest at ~~[[the]]~~ said first end of the sleeve.

16-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) The connector tool according to Claim ~~[[25]]~~ 38, wherein said connector is adapted to fit loosely in said fingers, and when said fingers with said connector are drawn into said sleeve, the combination of said fingers, connector and sleeve forms an interlocking engagement which reversibly locks the connector on to said connector tool.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) The connector tool recited in Claim ~~[[25]]~~ 38, wherein sliding movement of said gripper in said sleeve can be accomplished with one hand of its user.

30. (Currently amended) The connector tool recited in Claim ~~[[25]]~~ 38, wherein said cable connector can be withdrawn from and inserted into said fingers only when said handle is moved to a point where said fingers project from said sleeve.

31. (Currently amended) The connector tool recited in Claim ~~[[25]]~~ 38, wherein movement of said gripper in said sleeve is accomplished without spring action.

32. (Currently amended) The connector tool recited in Claim ~~[[25]]~~ 38, wherein said sleeve has a finger rest adjacent said handle.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) The connector tool recited in Claim ~~[[33]]~~ 36, wherein long juts on the walls of said sleeve define said cable ~~[[slot]]~~ channel.

35. (New) The connector tool according to Claim 37, wherein said gripper has flexible fingers, such that said fingers are gradually moved together as they are drawn into said sleeve.

36. (New) The connector tool recited in Claim 38 wherein said cable slot extends through the first end and second end of said sleeve.

37. (New) A connector tool adaptable to engage a cable connector, said tool comprising:

a sleeve having a first end and a second end, and

an elongated gripper slidably extending through said sleeve;

said gripper comprising

a handle at a handle end free of said sleeve, and

fingers at a fingers end distal from said handle end to freely engage a cable connector,

wherein said gripper is slidable in said sleeve, and

when said handle is slid to said first sleeve end, said fingers project from said second end free of said sleeve; and

when said handle is slid away from said first sleeve end a sufficient distance for said fingers to be drawn into said second end; said fingers [[are adapted to]] lock said cable connector into said tool with a remote portion of said cable connector extending from said sleeve,

said gripper having a cable slot and channel which freely slidably accommodates a cable attached to said cable connector.

38. (New) A connector tool adaptable to engage a cable connector, said tool comprising two pieces, consisting of:

a first piece being a sleeve having a first end and a second end, and

a second piece being an elongated gripper slidably extending through said sleeve;

said gripper having

a handle at a handle end free of said sleeve, and

fingers at a fingers end distal from said handle end adaptable to freely engage a cable connector,

said finger each being co-planar and free of any projections at their distal ends,

wherein said gripper is slidable in said sleeve, and

when said handle is slid to said first sleeve end, said fingers project from said second end free of said sleeve; and

when said handle is slid away from said first sleeve end a sufficient distance for said fingers to be drawn into said second end; said fingers are adapted to lock said cable connector into said tool with a remote portion of said cable connector extending from said sleeve,

said gripper having a cable slot and cable channel adapted to accommodate a cable attached to said cable connector.